ment under the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957.

In the light of these facts, it is evident that prospecting and mining of precious stones attracts the authority of the Union Government and therefore can be raised in the House.

The objection of Shri Vayalar Ravi is thus not maintainable and according I over-rule it.

I now turn to the points raised by Shri Pranab Mukherjee. As regards his point on the use of an expression while addressing the Chair I am of the opinion that, that expression is not commensurate with the dignity of the Chair, to whom that expression was addressed. Therefore, I have decided to expunge that expression from the records of the proceedings.

His second objection was with regard to the propriety of the insinuation against a State Government by a Member of the House who, while making his submission, stated that there was some exchange of benefit etc. I have seen the record and found that Shri Gurudas Das Gupta had used such an expression. The rules, practice and etiquette of the House require that Members should not raise questions which are ironical expressions, imputations and defamatory. Rule 238 (vii) is specific in this behalf. Members are expected to maintain decorum and dignity in debates. Similarly Rule 47(2) (iv) and Rule 169 (ii) indicate that questions and motions will not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions, imputation or defamatory statements.

I have accordingly decided that the insinuation or defamatory remarks regarding the Government of Madhya Pradesh of Shri Gurudas Das Gupta be expunged under Rule 261.

The Secretariat will convey the expunged portions of the proceedings to the members concerned.

The matter now stands closed.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Sir, he should be requested to note it for future also.

SHR! RAGHAVJI- Sir, I would like to know..... (*Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is over now. I won't allow any question on that.

GOVERNMENT MOTION

Thirtieth Report of the Commissioner For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the Year 1989—91—*contd.*

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): Sir, first, I would like to apologise to the House for leaving early, I mean, when the debate was going on, but as we were giving the Disability Awards that day, and they were being given after many years, and I had taken keen interest in it, I had to leave...*(Inter ruptions)*.....

SHRI MD. SALIM: Please speak into the mike.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: I am speaking into the mike actually. Sir, 1 would like to apologise for leaving early and I left after taking the permission because the Awards for Disabilities were being given that day and it is something which I have taken a great deal of interest in, I would like to thank my colleagues for taking notes for me, and I would also like to thank al! the Members who had taken part in this debate.

I am grateful to the hon. Members for raising some important issues pertaining to empowerment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during the discussion on the Thirtieth Report of the erstwhile Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1989—91.

The Thirtieth Report of the erstwhile Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes along with action taken

memoranda was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 27th July, 1998. I can take some credit for expediting the laying of the Report, after I assumed the charge of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Important issues that have been raised by hon. Members of the House pertaining to the Report under discussion relate to educational facilities, employment opportunities, economic development, land reforms, resettlement of Scheduled Tribes in areas where major development projects are taken up, utilisation of funds under Special Component Plans, representation of people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in top position ot Government, reservation policy in Government jobs, waiving of the loans taken in the name of tribals by non-tribals and cases related to atrocities committed against people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe;;.

I will try to respond to each of these issues as best as I can.

The reservation in Government jobs is a very vital instrument to ensure proper representation of people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the administration of this country. It shall be the endeavour of the Government to ensure that the reservation policy is implemented in letter and spirit in accordance with the provisions in the Constitution of India on the subject.

The Slate Governments have been constantly reminded by the Central Government to implement land reform measures wherein people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are made beneficiaries under various schemes. Those who have been allotted land under patta right should be given possession of land on a priority basis. Special emphasis has been given to create irrigation facilities and other infrastructure on land allotted to people belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes under the various Centrally sponsored schemes.

Regarding the issue of inclusion of communities in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Government is making all efforts in this direction. In fact, we are trying, for the ; first time, to bring out modalities in which automatic inclusion or exclusion of castes and tribes can be made, obviating the necessity of any kind of political pressure or pull to include or exclude one or the other caste.

It has also been stated that untouchability is still practised in some parts of the country. I share this anxiety with concern and assure that my Government will leave no stone unturned in curbing this evil practice. The Government has been assisting the States through the Centrally sponsored programme for effective implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Acts and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989. For speedy disposal of cases, some States in the country have been assisted for setting up exclusive special courts so that trials are carried out expeditiously. The Government of India and the State Governments are determined to provide timely relief to the victims of atrocity.

Having replied to the major concerns expressed by the hon. Members, I would like to draw the attention of this august House to my Ministry's recent efforts to empower Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This is what is being done in the last nine months.

Recognising that education holds the key to empowerment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and that it is onl) through education that the disadvantages can turn into advantages for these groups, this Government has taken a series of initiatives for educational empowerment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes:

(1) Under the Post-matric Scholarship Scheme, scholarships are given to all SO

ST" students who meet the economic criteria for all post-matric recognised courses run by recognised institutions. ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MD. SALIM (West Bengal): Sir, I am sorry to interrupt her. The hon. Minister is reading out a statement. That should have been circulated to us. If she is reading out a statement, a copy should have been circulated to us. It is very difficult to follow. Sir, I want your ruling.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I don't think that a reply is a statement.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, when we have had such a long debate, perhaps, the Members should exercise some patience in listening to longish answer which has been carefully prepared. Next time when I won't give them a statement and circulate it, they will object to my no giving them a reply.

In the first year of a Five Year Plan, a committed liability, accumulated over the preceding five years, is borne by the State Governments. Due to nonavailability of resources, the North-Eastern States have not been able to provide for the committed liability and, therefore, remained devoid of Central assistance under the Scheme. This is the post-matric scheme. The Government has now exempted the North-Eastern States from providing for committed liability. In other words, in the case of North-Eastern States the entire liability will be borne by the Central Government. Further, in the past, if a parent has more than two boys, only two of them were eligible for scholarship under the Scheme. Now all the boys are eligible for scholarship. All the girl children were eligible even earlier. With the recent amendment of the scheme all the children, whether male or female, have become eligible.

Under the Boys' and Girls' Hostel Scheme, it has been decided to make a portion of the hostel barrier free so as to make it easily accessible to the SC and ST disabled students.

National Overseas Scholarship which has not been operative for the last two years has been revived. Under the Scheme we award scholarships along with passage grant to 30 students belonging to SC, ST, Nomadic and semi-nomadic communities, etc., to pursue advanced studies in Science and Technology.

It is felt that to occupy senior positions in industry, business, civil services, academics and other walks of life, quality education is most essential. For the first time, therefore, it has been decided by the Government to establish residential schools imparting quality education which will have various facilities and amenities to maintain high standard of education. For this purpose an amount of Rs. 250 crores has been earmarked during the Ninth Plan period to establish 100 such schools for tribal children.

Income-generating activities are of crucial importance for economic empowerment of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In order to address the fundamental causes of disadvantages, this Ministry has taken a number of initiatives for the income-generation activities of both the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The authorised share capital of the National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation has been raised by Rs. 700 crores, that is, from Rs. 300 crores to Rs. 1,000 crores, during this time.

Among other initiative taken for the welfare and development of the Scheduled Tribes, I may mention a few of them which are meant exclusively for the Scheduled Tribes: (1) According to article 339(1) of the Constitution, President may appoint a commission every ten years to review the programmes meant for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Areas. The last commission was constituted in 1960. About 40 years have passed, but no such commission was set, up. It is reflective of this Government's sincere commitment to the

welfare of the Scheduled Tribes that after 40 years this Government has already approved to set up an eleven-member commission to review various programmes and policies for tribal development. There is a need to critically review the approach and strategy followed so far and to reorient the same to ensure overall concrete benefits within a definite time-frame. (2) There are some tribal groups who are leading an extremely precarious existence and some of them are on the verge of extinction. Seventy-five such tribal groups have been identified as primitive tribal groups. The existing development programmes have not been able to alleviate their condition. The present Government has decided to introduce a new Central Sector Scheme with 100% Government of India funding for integrated development of these tribes on a time-bound basis. (3) This Government has decided to launch a new Central Sector Scheme during the current financial year for the tribals who will be displaced from forest areas under the Supreme Court ruling. The Budget provision for the current year has been kept at Rs. 25 crores. (4) Bringing the Scheduled Tribes into the mainstream of development is a matter which requires constant rethinking so that appropriate strategies are developed to respond to changing socio-economic needs. Although Tribal Research Institutes have been established in a number of States, a need was felt to set up a national apex body as a resource base on a national basis. A decision has, therefore, been taken to establish a National Institute of Training and Research on Tribal affairs. Although, recommendation for such an institute was made 40 years ago by the Dhebar Commission, it is for the first time that such an institute would actually come into being.

With reference to displacement of people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by major industrial, irrigation and power projects, the hon. Members have stressed the need for providing a rehabilitation package so that the quality of their lives is not compromised. As you know, Sir, I have been associated with this both in the protest and the rehabilitation form as long back as I can remember. That is why this is of particular interest to me. As the hon. Members are aware, the national policy of resettlement and rehabilitation of displaced persons due to the commissioning of projects is in an advanced stage of finalisation. We have requested the authorities for incorporating these concerns in the national policy. In the meantime, the Ministry of Water Resources has commenced referring the projects to this Ministry for clearance. This was the first thing that I asked for when I became Minister. We asked, "Since we were incharge of rehabilitation, how is that the matter of rehabilitation of displaced people did not come to us?" Now for the first time this Ministry is also involved in the rehabilitation. Unless we give clearance, no project can go through. The Ministry has also ensured that the interests of the disadvantaged sections of the people are fully protected.

The hon. Members pointed out the need for protecting ownership rights of the people on their lands. This is being done through land transfer regulations. Enactment to this effect has been in operation in almost all the States in the country which prohibits transfer of tribal lands to non-tribals and provides for the return of land to them. However, there is a lot of scope for improvement in its implementation. This unfortunately cannot be done by this Ministry alone. It would involve a sense of commitment of the local officers and all public representatives.

Apart from this we do have an organisation, TRIFED. TRIFED was made to buy things from the Tribals and sell them and give the money directly to the Tribals. TRIFED started buying surplus agriculture produce. Unfortunately, it ran into huge losses and

did not fulfil the duty for which it was set up. It really was in a bit of difficulty. We are in the process of revamping the entire thing, setting up special offices, reorienting offices and sending people to villages to pack up the Tribal produce. We are completely eliminating the agriculture produce which is non-Tribal.

Besides Governmental efforts, this Ministry also implements a number of schemes through non-governmental organisations. Unfortunately, these schemes suffered from rigidity and inflexible structure. There is a 27-page proforma. There is a delay of two years for just looking at the project. Then the State Government refers to us. It takes five years after it has been referred to them. There is a law that if it comes two years late, it has to be sent back to the State. There have been projects lying with this Ministry for eight to ten years. The general approach was so hard that good NGOs just gave it up. Either they died or never came to this Ministry.

The schemes for NGOs have now been made very simple and broad-based. Previously, due to delay in receiving recommendations from State Governments, many of the proposals could not be sanctioned timely. Now a decision has been taken to entrust the work of inspection and evaluation to reputed institutions of the country so that the proposals could be sanctioned on time. The scope of the scheme has been widened to include issues related to human rights, environment, legal aid, creation of awareness and other client services. Thank you.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : सर, मुझे दो बातें पूछनी है।

श्री सनातन बिसि : सर, मुझे दो-चार क्लेरिफिकेशन्स चाहिए।

Sir, I would like to seek one or two clarifications.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your clarification?

SHRI SANATAN BISI (Orissa): Madam, I had put specific questions. We visited various States and from their Annual Reports, we found that no State Government was maintaining a separate account for Special Contingency Plan for the Scheduled Castes. I had put a specific question as to whether they would open a separate Budget Head for the SCP in order to prevent diversion, underutilisation and misutilisation of funds earmarked for the Scheduled Castes. The Minister has not answered this. The other question I had put is relating to the special Central assistance to States for the Special Component Plan for SC/ST areas. Also, the figures as per the Economic Survey of 1997-98 of the Government of Orissa and the figures as per the Annual Report are not tallying. What is the reason for this? I had been asking about this several times.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं केवल दो स्पष्टीकरण पूछना चाहता हूं। सरदार सरोवर डैम के विस्थापित गुजरात, महाराष्ट्र और मध्य प्रदेश के लाखों आदिवासी आज तक स्थापित नही हुए है, उनके बारे में सरकार क्या सोच रही है ? दूसरा, यह जो अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति अत्याचार निवारण अधिनियम, 1989 हैं, आम तौर से सारे राज्यों में लेकिन खास तौर से उत्तर प्रदेश में निष्प्रभावी कर दिया गया है जिसके कारण अत्याचार और जुल्म इन लोगों पर बढ़ रहे है, आंकड़े कुछ भी पेश करो। क्या भारत सरकार राज्य सरकारों को निर्देशित करेगी कि यह भारत सरकार का कानून है, इसका आवश्यक तौर पर क्रियान्वयन हो?

(उपसभापति महोदया पीठासीन हुई)

SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI (Gujarat): Madam, as far as the Sardar Sarovar Nigam is concerned, on the question of rehabilitation, I wpuld like to say that the Gujarat Government has fully provided land, accommodation and all that, and people have been fully rehabilitated. Regarding those who do not want to vacate, the Gujarat Government is looking into the matter.

उपसभापति : मेनका जी, सब कम्पलीट हो जाने दीजिये, सब का इक्ट्ठा जवाब दे दीजियेगा। **(व्यवधान)**

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम (पश्चिमी बंगाल) **:** मंत्री महोदया ने अपने जवाब में यह कहा कि जो

एन0जी0ओज0 हैं, उनके बारें में प्रोसीजर को सिम्पलीफाई किया जा रहा है । (**व्यवधान**) बाईलेटरस हो रहा है...(**व्यवधान**)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It should be multilateral.

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम : उन्होंने, कहा कि इस बारे में प्रोसीजर को सिम्पलीफाई किया जा रहा है, यह बहुत अच्छी बात है । जो लम्बा वक्त लगता था, उसे घटाया जा रहा है । सी0ए0जी0 ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में 70वें दशक में यह कहा था कि उनके डिपार्टमेंट में इसके लिए मोनिटरिंग सेल होना चाहिये । उस वक्त यह मंत्री नही थी लेकिन उसके बाद बार बार मंत्री बनी है । वेल्फेयर मिनिस्ट्री और अब सोशल जस्टिस एंड इम्पावरमेंट में एन0जी0ओज0 के बारे में मोनिस्टर करने के लिए एक स्पेशल सेल होना चाहिये, यह सी0ए0जी0 ने कहा है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या मोनिटरिंग के बारे में कोई अरेंजमेंट किया गया है या नही किया गया है । क्या मंत्री महोदया ऐसा अरेंजमेंट करेंगी क्योंकि इन एन0जी0ओज0 को करोड़ों रुपया दिया जा रहा है ताकि उसका सही हिसाब-किताब हो सकें? (**व्यवधान**)

†**شری محمد سلیم:** انھوں نےکہاکہ اس بارے میں پرو سیجرکو سمپلیفائی کیا جا رہا ہے۔ یہ بہت اچھی بات ہے۔ جو لمبا وقت لگتا تھا۔ اسے گھٹا یا جا رہا ہے۔ سی۔اے۔ جی۔ نے اپنی رپورٹ میں ۱۹۷۰ میں یہ کہا تھاکہ انکے ڈپارٹمنٹ میں اس کےلئے مانیٹرنگ سیل ہونا چاہئے۔ اس وقت یہ منتری نہیں تھیں۔لیکن اسکے بعد باربار یہ منتری بنی ہیں۔ ویلفیئر منسٹری فار سوشل جسٹس اینڈ امپاورمنٹ میں این جی او کے بارے میں مانیٹرکرنے کیلئے ایک اسپیشل سیل ہونا چاہئے یہ سی اے جی نے کہا ہے۔

میں یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا مانیٹرنگ کے بارےمیں کوئی اریجمنٹ کریں گی۔کیونکہ ان این جی اوزکو کروڑوں روپیہ دیا جا رہا ہے تاکہ اس کا صحیح حساب کتاب ہو سکے۔..."مداخلت"...

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: We had a ten-hour debate on this already.

श्री राम नाथ कोविन्द : महोदया.....

उपसभापति : कितने सवाल और पूछेंगे?(**व्यवधान**)

श्री सनातन बिसि : आंसर नही आएगा तो पूछेंगे ही (**व्यवधान**)

उपसभापति : देखिये, संक्षेप में पूछें (**व्यवधान**)

श्री राम नाथ कोविन्द (**उत्तर प्रदेश**) : मैं संक्षेप में ही पूछूंगा । अभी पिछले सप्ताह जो चर्चा हुई जिसका अभी मंत्री जी ने जवाब दिया, उसमें मैंने एक छोटा सा बिन्दु उठाया था । पिछले कई वर्षो के दौरान कई जातियों को अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति में शामिल करने का मामला इनके मंत्रालय में पेंडिंग पड़ा हुआ है । यह एक ऐसा मामला है जिस पर राज्य सरकारों ने भी अपनी संस्तुति दी है । महोदया, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि उसके बारे में संविधान कब तक लाएंगे?

श्री कनकमल कटारा : महोदया ....(**व्यवधान**)

उपसभापति : यह आखरी है, इसके बाद कोई नही है ।

श्री कनकमल कटारा (**राजस्थान**) **:** उपसभापति महोदया, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जिला ग्रामीण विकास अधिकरण के द्वारा जनजाति के लोगों को लाभ दिया जाता है परन्तु शहरी क्षेत्र के जो नगरपालिका क्षेत्र के अन्दर आते हैं, उनको लाभ नही दिया जाता है । इसके बारे में सरकार ने क्या कोई योजना बनाई है ताकि जो शहरी क्षेत्र में जनजाति के लोग रहते हैं, उनको लाभ मिल सके? इसकी जानकारी जवाब में नही मिली है, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं ।

उपसभापति : मंत्री जी, जवाब दीजिये (**व्यवधान**)

+ [ ] Transliteration in Arabic Script.

श्री गांधी आज़ाद : मुझे एक सवाल पूछना है **(व्यवधान)**

उपसभापति : इतने सवाल पूछ लिये, अब रहने दीजिये।

Shall we start another discussion on it?

श्री गांधी आज़ाद (उत्तर प्रदेश) **:** मैं एक स्पेसेफिक प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूं, उसका जवाब मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूं। मंत्री महोदया से चर्चा के दौरान मैंने पूछा कि अनुसूचित जाति, जनजाति के लिए जो 90 करोड़ रुपये स्वीकृत है । वह अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति के पुनरुत्थान के लिए खर्च न करके उसका 35 करोड़ रुपया पशुओं के कल्याण के लिए लगाया जा रहा है। मैं मंत्री महोदया से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति की स्थिति पशुओं से भी खराब है? उन पर क्यों नही लगाया जा रहा है?

उपसभापति : आप तो भाषण दे रहे है।

श्री गांधी आज़ाद : एक और छोटा-सा सवाल है। अम्बेडकर फाउंडेशन के जो बाइ-लाज हैं उनके अनुसार उसका वाईस चेयरमैन शिडयूल्ड कास्ट का होना चाहिए। लेकिन इस समय श्री अनिल सलूजा जो फाउंडेशन के वाइस चैयरमैन नियुक्त किए गए है वे सामान्य वर्ग से हैं। ऐसा क्यों है?

उपसभापति : ओ0के0 अब बस **...(व्यवधान)**

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Madam, regarding opening of separate Budget heads under the Special Component Plan, the respective State Governments have been advised to do so. Most State Governments are maintaining such account heads and furnishing information to the Ministry. Sp, there is a separate account. Secondly, regarding the Member who has asked about rehabilitation of tribals in the Narmada Sardar Sarovar, this is a matter not just of personal concern, but really, it is a matter of enormous concern to India. I do not believe the Member's claim that they have all been re-settled and there are just a few who have left their houses. There arc 400,000 people who have not been resettled and who perhaps never will be. However, we have decided to look into this. This will be coming to us to see what we can do for it. The third question by the Member who wanted to know that the CAG.....

उपसभापति : नही, वे बोल रही है। लेट हर फिनिश **...(व्यवधान)**

डा0 (श्रीमती) उर्मिला चिमनभाई पटेल (गुजरात) **:** गुजरात के बारे में जो इन्फारमेशन मेम्बर ने दी है वह गलत है और उनके जो कमेंटस हैं, वह कमेंट कि कभी भी नही होगा, क्या ऐसा मिनिस्टर कह सकते हैं? यह नही होगा, यह वह कैसे कह सकती है? रिहैबिलीटेशन तो होगा ही । आज नही होगा तो कल होगा जो बाकी रहे होंगे। यह होगा ही नही, ऐसा कैसे कह सकती है?

She is a responsible Minister of the Government.

उपसभापति : मंत्री जी जवाब दे रही है **...(व्यवधान)**

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: It is because I am responsible that I have made this statement. I will be specific because in 50 years since independence we have re-settled about less than one per cent of those people who have been thrown out by power projects, by dam projects and other big projects. So, it leads me to believe that if one per cent is done in 50 years, then how long will it take? Perhaps not in my time.

SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: But it is not so in the case of Gujarat.

डा0 (श्रीमती) उर्मिला चिमनभाई पटेल : ...(व्यवधान) यह मध्य प्रदेश नही कर रहा है तो यह रिस्पांसिबिलिटी मध्य प्रदेश की है**...(व्यवधान)**

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is there any move by the Government to improve upon the previous record?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Yes, there is a move.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That should be the idea of any Government, it should strive to do better.

SHRIAMTI MANEKA GANDHI: As I said in my reply, I have taken it into my Ministry. We have made a special scheme for anybody who has been

displaced from forest or land which is forested and I have put Rs. 25 crores for rehabilitation as a special scheme. This perhaps could apply to that sector. So, there is a move to ;e-allocate funds under different heads so that we can take active action in this. But again you know, at the cost of looking cynical I do not think that we will be able to re-settle all the displaced.

SHRI JIBON ROY (West Bengal): The Government should not take that position with regard to rehabilitation and re-settlement of displaced people. At least you keep it open.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: The hon. Minister can not be sarcastic.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: She did not use the word sarcastic. She said 'cynical.'

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): The position is, this is a human problem. What she said was, "Government will not do". Then she said, "Well, I say, it will all be done." What is this? What is this? This is unfortunate.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: You should use less of semantics and not facts.

SHRI JIBON ROY: All those who have been affected should be rehabilitated and mostly tribals have been affected by projects, big dame, Railways; but the hon. Minister is taking a position that rehabilitation is not possible.

not been done so far. We are making efforts but the fact is that to give a statement which the hon. Member gave

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: I have not taken that position. In fact, most of my political life has been concerned with the rehabilitation of the tribals. 1 have not taken that position. However, I have factually put it before you that while it should be done, it has betore me saying that we have rehabi-tated them totally in Gujarat is incorrect.

Then, we come to the next question. The CAG has pointed out all sorts of peculiar NGOs that have taken money over the years. It is quite true. Because of the nexus between governments, between Ministries, between NGOs, they could find their way in.

Also, because of the inordinate delays, the inability of even somebody like me to understand the proforma which was so complicated and designed to make you go home and not ask for money, various NGOs did misuse the Ministry funds; not now, since the last twenty odd years. Therefore, our mechanism....

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: How many were blacklisted?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: May I complete it?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let her finish first.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: For the first time, we are preparing a black list of all those NGOs. We have already written to specific States because a lot of NGOs that were recommended by these States came out to be fictitious. For example, let me point out Sikkim as an example. The NGOs recommended by the State's officers came out to be completely fictitious and those NGOs that were given money did not exist. They were recommended by the State's

officers. Therefore, we have blacklisted not only the NGOs, but we have also asked for action against the officers. We are not giving money to any State until these matters are cleared up. On the other hand, what are the mechanisms that are being put in so that we do not repeat this in future? For one thing, no checking will be done by the Ministry cither at the State level or at the Central level. It will be done by reputed institutions for the disabled or institutions doing social work, retired Army officers and groups who will evaluate their peers every three months or every six months. This is a much stronger mechanism that has now come in. The last question that was raised was: Have we got any scheme for urban SCs and STs? Yes, we do. But again, since mine is a Ministry which mainly can work through NGOs, we would be happy to take up any schemes given by NGOs for helping small children, for helping SCs and STs based in cities. We are starting off with one major scheme for slums here, in Delhi, and all the SC children are in there. We hope to extend it to other cities.

श्री गांधी आज़ाद : मैडम, हमारे क्वेश्चन का जवाब नही आया । **...(व्यवधान)** अंबेडकर फाउंडेशन के बारे में हमने सवाल पूछा था, उस बारे में मंत्री जी ने कोई उत्तर नही दिया ।

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Regarding the question that has been raised about Dr. Amebdkar Foundation, the Vice-Chairman is a person called Mr. Saluja, who is doing an efficient job, with commitment. There is nothing that says that a Vice-Chairman cannot be of any caste. He has been chosen on grounds of his competence. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, I have got a small point.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. That matter is over now. We will take up the Short Duration Discussion.

SHIR GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: I vill take just one minute.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: It is not on this, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, what is it?

SHRI' GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, yesterday's newspapers said that three Ministers had been sworn in. The normal practice is that the Ministers, after being sworn in, are introduced to the House. Particularly, two of the three Minsiters belong to this House. After the Question Hour, half-an-hour has elapsed. The Ministers are introduced generally iftcr the Question Hour. I would like to know from you whether that practice has jeen dispensed with.

SHRI T. N. CHATURVEDI: Madam,

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: 1 think he has asked the Chair and I am capable of answering it. Das Guptaji, I didn't swear them in. So, I can't answer this.

SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA: The Government, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Parliamentary Affairs Minister is not here. The Leader of House is not here, fhey should answer. May be, those Ministers do not need an introduction »ince they are from our House.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): Madam, the Prime Minister is out of Delhi. He has gone to Kashmir and will be back by 4 o'clock today.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, they will come at four. *(Interruptions)*

श्री गांधी आज़ाद : महोदया, 90 करोड़ **...(व्यवधान)**

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That matter is closed.

श्री गांधी आज़ाद : उसमें आंसर नही आया, कोई आंसर नही आया ।**...(व्यवधान)**

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We will take up the Short Duration Discussion now.

श्री मोहम्मद सलीम : अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जन-जाति कल्याण के लिए 90 करोड़ और वह पशु कल्याण के लिए खर्च हो रहे हैं, यह सवाल वह पूछ रहे हैं । सवाल तो स्पेसेफिक हैं । ...(**व्यवधान**)

†**شری محمد سلیم:** انو سوچت جن جاتی۔ انوسوچت جاتی کلیان کے لئے ۹۰ کروڑ اور وہ پشو کلیان کے لئے خرچ ہو رہے ہیں۔ یہ سوال وہ پوچھ رہے ہیں۔ سوال تو اسپیشیفک ہے....

श्री गांधी आज़ाद : इस सवाल का कोई जवाब नही आया कि वह कैसे डाइवर्ट कर दिया गया? ...(**व्यवधान**) मतलब अब अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति क्या पशुओं से भी बदतर है?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, that matter is closed.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: But', Madam, this question should be answered.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can write the question and send it to the Minister, with a copy to me. 1 will get you the answer. Now, we will go the Short Duration, Discussion regarding price rise. Shri Franab Mukherjee.

SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION

Current Economic Situation and its Implications on Indian Economy

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): Madam, I am grateful to you for permitting me to raise the Short Duration Discussion under rule 176 on the current economic situation and its implications on various aspects of Indian economy, in-cluding price rise and recession.

Madam, six months ago, when the Finance Minister presented the first J Budget of the new Government on 1st June, 1998, he identified ten key objectives of the Budget. In para 7 of Part A of his Budget speech, the Finance Minister observed, and I quote, "Growing on the National Agenda for Governance and policy statement "of the "Prime Minister, 1 believe that key objectives of this Budget should be..." And then he identified ten objectives'. "Strengthen the foundation of Indian economy. Reverse the decline in agriculture and strengthen the rural economy. "Restore the momentum of industrial growth. Accelerate the development of infrastructure. Rapidly expand job-opportunities. Impetus to social sector. Integration with the'world economy. Revival of exports. Ensure macro-economic stability; control over inflation. Raise the rate of domestic saving. Free the productive energies of the people from bureaucratic hurdles and control.

Eight months have passed since the new Government assumed office. The first six months of the financial year are over. Therefore, let us have a look at it What has been the performance? The Finance Minister wanted to have control over inflation. In these six months, the rate of infkition has just doubled from 4.3 per cent in April—September, 1997 to 8.2 per cent in April—September 1998. The Finance Minister proposed and promised that revival of exports should take place. Yes; there has been some achievement in exports, but not revival. After many, 'many years, this country has registered a negative growth in exports in the first six months. From April, 98 to September, 98, in the first six months, the negative growth of export was -3.4 per cent. I am not talking of the 20 per cent export growth, in US dollar terms, of the last three years of the Congress rule. Even compared with the performance of the United Front rule during which the exports growth went down. I am happy; at least, I felt ha'ppy'when tjie Commerce Minister took an unusual step of presenting the Exim Policy for the year concerned before the Finance Minis-